10-25-06

PTO/SB/21 (09-06)
Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
nd to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control ourses.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid Owls control numb		
	Application Number	10/645,834-Conf. #7644
TRANSMITTAL	Filing Date	August 20, 2003
FORM	First Named Inventor	Daniel Chiu
	Art Unit	1744
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Examiner Name	W. H. Beisner
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	58072(47137)

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)			
Fee Transmittal Form	Drawing(s)	After Allowance Communication to TC	
Fee Attached	Licensing-related Papers	Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences	
X Amendment/Reply	Petition	Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)	
After Final	Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	Proprietary Information	
Affidavits/declaration(s)	Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	Status Letter	
Extension of Time Request	Terminal Disclaimer	Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):	
Express Abandonment Reques	Request for Refund	Certificate Of Express Mail Preliminary Amednment	
Information Disclosure Stateme	cD, Number of CD(s)	Return Receipt Postcard	
Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Landscape Table on CD		
Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	Remarks		
Reply to Missing Parts un 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	der d		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP			
Signature Shutto			
Printed name Stephana E. Pa	ton		
October 23, 200	Reg. No.	50,373	



Docket No.: 58072(47137)

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Daniel Chiu et al.

Application No.: 10/645,834

Confirmation No.: 7644

Filed: August 20, 2003

Art Unit: 1744

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OBTAINING

AND MAINTAINING HIGH-RESISTANCE SEALS IN PATCH CLAMP RECORDINGS

Examiner: W. H. Beisner

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed September 26, 2006 (Paper No. 1), applicant hereby provisionally elects claims for continued examination, with traverse.

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed September 26, 2006, Applicant hereby provisionally elects claims of Group I, Claims 1 – 30, 87 – 89, 93 – 95, 97, and 98 - 101, for continued examination, with traverse.

First, the subject matter of the groups relates to a single inventive concept for which a single patent should issue. The pending claims represent an intricate web of knowledge, continuity of effort, and consequences, which merit examination of all of these claims in a single application. More particularly, a single, searchable, unifying aspect links all of the claims. This single, searchable, unifying aspect relates to systems and methods allowing for an electrically resistant seal between a cell and a cell-contacting surface. Second, Applicants submit that a sufficient search and

Application No.: 10/645,834 2 Docket No.: 58072(47137)

examination with respect to the subject matter of all claims can be made without serious burden. As the M.P.E.P. states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. M.P.E.P. § 803 (8th ed., Rev. No. 2, May 2004).

That is, even if the above-enumerated groups of claims are drawn to distinct inventions, the Examiner must still examine the entire application on the merits because doing so will not result in a serious burden. This is especially true in light of the robust and extensive computerized search engines and databases at the Examiner's disposal. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn, and that each of claims 1- 108 presently pending in this application be examined.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105, under Order No. 58072(47137).

Dated: October 23, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Stephana E. Patton

Registration No.: 50,373

**EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE** 

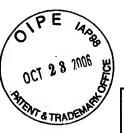
LLP

P.O. Box 55874

Boston, Massachusetts 02205

(617) 439-4444

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant



Application No. (if known): 10/645,834

Attorney Docket No.: 58072(47137)

## **Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 892896509 US in an envelope addressed to:

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on October 23, 2006

Date

Signature

Lynne M. Hawkes

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

(617) 439-4444

Registration Number, if applicable

Telephone Number

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper.

Tranmittal Form (1 page)

Response to Restriction Requirement (with Traverse) (2 pages)

Return Receipt Postcard